

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE REVIEW

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



22 - 24 APRIL 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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24 April 1964

1. Laos: Laos appears to have quieted down for the present.

The coup group said Thursday that Souvanna's government continues to function, but asked the premier to reorganize. He is to take into account the recommendations made by the "Committee of National Defense," which will in some Lao fashion supervise the Souvanna government's actions.

The coup generals have also promised Souvanna their solid backing in unifying the army. Ambassador Unger notes that in pushing Souvanna to take over the military, the coup generals seem to be aiming at undercutting rightist general Phoumi. He feels that in retrospect the coup appears to have been aimed almost as much at Phoumi as it was at Souvanna and the neutralists.

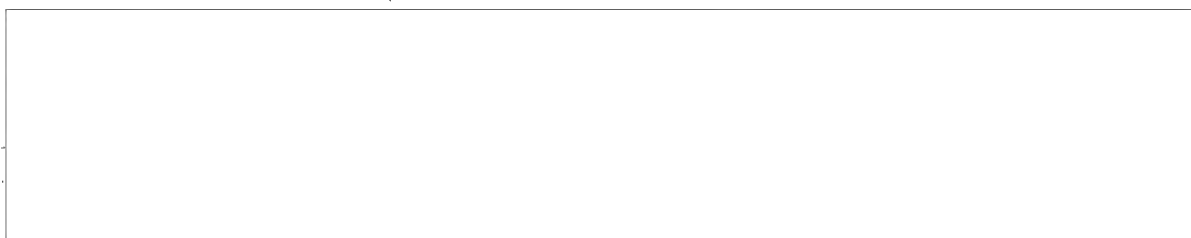
The Pathet Lao, who vigorously protested the coup, have not yet committed themselves on Souvanna's agreement with the generals. Neutralist Kong Le is believed likely to go along with the arrangements.

2. Congo: The Brazzaville-based Committee of National Liberation (CNL) may soon attempt to overthrow the Adoula government in Leopoldville.

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Nevertheless, the Congolese political structure is so fragile that considerable turmoil would be created should any assassination attempts succeed. [redacted]

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3. Cyprus: The outlook for any political settlement is still bleak, and scattered fighting continues. Greek-Turkish relations dipped lower during the past week, and anti-Americanism is growing in Turkey.

UN Mediator Tuomioja appears dismayed by the bitter atmosphere of both Nicosia and Ankara. He has said he sees "no light at the end of the tunnel." This weekend he is scheduled to talk to Greek officials in Athens, then go on to London and then Paris, where he will report to U Thant.

Turkey continues to insist on federation or partition as the only solution. The Greek Cypriots in turn insist on a unified government with the right of self-determination, which would allow for union with Greece. [redacted]

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Ambassador Hare reports that an "all-or-nothing" air has settled over Ankara, and talk of intervention is again on the rise. [REDACTED]

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Two members of the Greek Orthodox patriarchate in Turkey were deported this week in the latest anti-Greek move by Ankara. The US Consulate General in Istanbul comments that the anti-Greek mood also contains a strong undercurrent of anti-Americanism with the Turks increasingly blaming the US for "letting them down."

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4. Zanzibar: Kenyatta is going along with the Tanganyika-Zanzibar union. [REDACTED]

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Trouble may come [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Karume and Hanga [REDACTED] have agreed to transfer Babu to an unimportant post. Whether or not they can do this without an explosion by Babu's well-armed followers is uncertain.

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On Friday Karume made his first announcement on the union. During the reception that followed he had friendly words with Chargé Carlucci. The Soviet ambassador also appeared reasonably cheerful at the meeting, wrapping his arm around Carlucci's shoulder and commenting that Karume had the authority to make the union stick.

5. Communist China: Peiping has already bought almost four million tons of grain this year and will probably equal last year's mark of 5.9 million tons (worth about \$350 million). Over half of the grain will come from Australia and Canada and a large share of the remainder from Argentina and Mexico.

6. Yemen: Nasir made his first trip to Yemen this week, probably to buck up the Egyptian troops and possibly to take a hand in reorganizing the Yemeni republican government. President Sallal's regime has been stumbling along and growing more and more unpopular.

Nasir, whose length of stay has not been disclosed, is also using the occasion to belabor the British. He publicly pledged the expulsion of the UK from all parts of the Arab world, which, of course, includes Yemen's neighbors, South Arabia and Aden.

7. Cuba: The Cubans are accelerating their diplomatic and propaganda campaign against US overflights. Following the spate of speeches earlier this week, they circulated a note in the UN saying the overflights cannot be tolerated. They did not, however, ask for any UN action.

Moscow is adding its propaganda support. Friday's Izvestia claims that Cuba has the right to take the necessary measures to halt the overflights, adding that the USSR will line up with the Cubans if the island is subjected to a "treacherous attack."

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There are some signs of preparation for expected withdrawal of Soviet military personnel. [REDACTED]

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8. South Vietnam: Intense Viet Cong military activity continues. Last week's five-day battle in Choung Thien Province has been followed by coordinated attacks on government outposts along the Mekong River.

Around Saigon, harassment of river and road traffic is up. On 22 and 23 April, government troops suffered sizable losses when ambushed in Hau Nghia Province west of Saigon.

Government forces have reacted quickly, but their more than 1,000 casualties last week is the highest weekly total in the past three years. The Viet Cong losses were also up somewhat--about 700 killed or captured during the week--but they continue to capture about three weapons for every one lost, a ratio they have maintained all this year.

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9. South Vietnam:- Laos - Nationalist China: Laotian military officials who have been in Saigon since before the Laos coup say they have reached some agreements with the South Vietnamese on specific joint operations. South Vietnamese troops will be used to cut North Vietnamese infiltration routes in Laos and to clear areas in southern Laos which are under enemy control.

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A South Vietnamese bid for Nationalist Chinese assistance in operations against North Vietnam has been rejected.

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10. Panama: Panama's entrenched oligarchy may resort to violence in order to block presidential candidate Arnulfo Arias. Arias, who appeals to lower class resentment against the oligarchy, is leading in the race. The election is scheduled for 10 May.

Ambassador Vaughn reports that a popular uprising may follow if the government rigs the election or resorts to force to prevent Arias from winning. Shooting incidents have already occurred between Arias' followers and those of the oligarchy's candidate, Marco Robles.

11. Cuban Sugar: The Cubans are still working on boosting the world price of sugar. Besides spreading rumors that this year's Cuban crop is expected to be short--actually it probably will at least equal last year's 3.8 million metric tons--they appear to have rigged some large purchases of sugar futures in Europe. The result has been an upward surge in world prices.

12. Peru: Revolutionary extremists, who are being set up in business largely by Castro and the Chinese Communists, are now planning to launch a program of guerrilla action in the countryside and terrorism in the cities during the summer.

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13. UK - British Guiana: The strike by pro-Jagan sugar workers is sparking violent incidents and may lead to intervention by British troops.

Guianese police think some of the more serious incidents have been set off by Cuban-trained terrorists. Our consul is fearful that the violence might continue on into the election campaign later this year.